

SENECIO MACDONALDII (ASTERACEAE), A NEW SPECIES OF THE
PSACALIOPSIS GROUP FROM OAXACA, MÉXICO

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ABSTRACT

Senecio macdonaldii *spec. nov.*, a new species belonging to the *Psacaliopsis* group of *Senecio* is described and illustrated. It is known only from southeastern Oaxaca, México on Cerro Quiexobra, where it occurs in subalpine glades between 3500-3700 meters.

KEY WORDS: *Psacaliopsis*, *Senecio*, Senecioneae, Asteraceae, México

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following new species from southeastern Oaxaca, México.

Senecio macdonaldii B. Turner, *spec. nov.* (Figure 1). TYPE: MÉXICO. Oaxaca: 35 km ESE of Miahuatlán, 5-10 km NE of Santo Domingo Ozolotepec, Cerro Quiexobra (ca. 16° 10' N, 96° 15' W), 3500-3700 m, in subalpine glades and open pine forests, on ridge tops and in "saddles," 3 Oct 1990, *Andrew McDonald 2992* (HOLOTYPE: MEXU; Isotype: MEXU).

Senecioni nubivago L. Williams (= *Psacaliopsis pudica* H. Robins. & Brettell) similis sed differt plantis elatioribus (50-75 cm altis vs. 10-30 cm) foliis caulium 1-2 multo redactis et involucribus majoribus (14-18 mm altis vs. 10-12 mm).

Erect, nearly scapose, perennial herbs 50-75 cm high. Stems 4-5 mm across, puberulent when young, but glabrate with age. Leaves peltate, these mostly confined to or near the base, only 1 or 2 much reduced nonpeltate leaves occurring along the upper portion of the stem; basal leaves with petioles 6-12 cm long; blades circular or broadly oval in outline, the petiole attached at or near the center, 5-9 cm long, 5-10 cm wide, cottony to glabrate beneath,

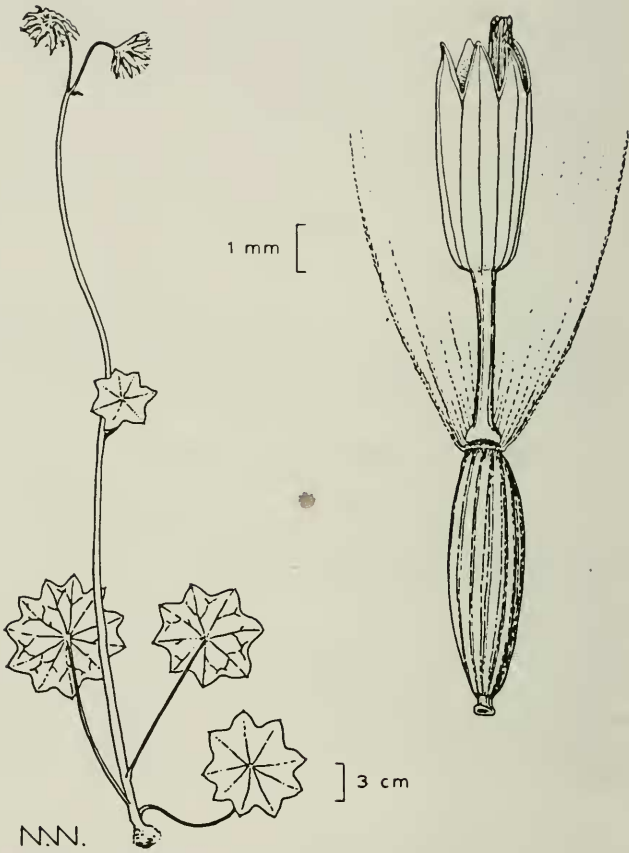


Fig. 1. Senecio macdonaldii, from holotype.

glabrous above, 8-10 lobed, the lobes about as wide as long, the margins entire or nearly so. Heads eradiate, campanulate, only 1 or 2 at the apices of stout peduncles, the latter 15-40 cm long, if heads 2, then the ultimate peduncles 4-5 cm long. Involucres 14-18 mm high, the bracts biseriate, lanceolate, subequal, purplish, pubescent, 4-5 mm wide, the apices acute. Receptacle 15-18 mm across, glabrous. Disk florets numerous, the corollas purplish, 8-9 mm long, glabrous, the tubes ca. 4 mm long, the limbs ca. 5 mm long, the lobes ca. 1.5 mm long. Anthers ca. 3 mm long, the appendages acute. Style branches long and coiling, the apices merely obtuse. Achenes fusiform, 6-8 mm long, 8-10 ribbed, glabrous, stipitate at the base for ca. 0.5 mm, the pappus of 30-40 barbellate bristles 7-8 mm long, these arranged in a single series, rather easily detached at the base.

Senecio macdonaldii, with its nearly acaulescent habit, peltate leaves, large, few, nodding heads, purple corollas with well developed tubes, and glabrous, 8-10 ribbed, stipitate achenes, clearly belongs to the *Psacaliopsis* group of *Senecio*, which is treated as a genus by Robinson & Brettell (Phytologia 27:402. 1974). *Psacaliopsis* heretofore contained but three species, but the recently described *S. paneroi* B. Turner (Phytologia 67:454. 1989) and the present, bring the total to five. In the forthcoming treatment of *Senecio* (sensu lato) for México, Turner & Barkley will include *Psacaliopsis* within *Senecio*, series *Palmatinervii*.

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